COMMANDERS DIGEST

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DoD Drug Abuse Information Program Planned

Highlights of DOD's drug abuse information program were presented to government officials by (left to right) Roger T. Kelley and John Broger, while Bud Wilkinson outlined the national aspects of the drug abuse program.

Key Officials Discuss Details at Pentagon, Services Begin Extensive Program in January

The Department of Defense has prepared an extensive Drug Abuse Information Program that is scheduled to begin January 1970 through the military internal information channels and the Office of Information for the Armed Forces (IAF).

About 75 high level officials from the individual Services, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, other government agencies and the White House gathered at the Pentagon Dec. 18 to hear the plan outlined by John Broger, director of IAF. Charles "Bud" Wilkinson, special consultant to the President on youth affairs, also attended and presented an overview of the national aspects of the drug abuse problem.

The Information Program is coordinated with the Military Departments and the DoD Drug Abuse Control Committee, chaired by Frank Bartimo, assistant general counsel for DoD. The programs are reported to Roger T. Kelley, assistant secretary of defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs).

Mr. Kelley opened the meeting with the comment that drug abuse is one of the most critical and challenging problems that we face.

"We are privileged to carry the responsibility for giving leadership and moral guidance to more people, both military and civilian, than any other single organization in this country. And, therefore, we, more than most, should not only be concerned about the problem, but must give effective leadership to finding solutions."

Mr. Broger, who reviewed the DoD drug abuse program

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Director Ingersoll Urges Campaign To Halt Present Flow of Illicit Drugs

The Director of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, John E. Ingersoll, has called for an "all out effort, both nationally and internationally," to halt the flow of illicit drugs into the country and to diminish illicit home manufactured supplies.

Following are excerpts from his remarks at the White House Governors' Conference Dec. 3:

I am honored to have this opportunity to speak to you this morning on an issue which is foremost not only in your minds but also in the minds of so many of our fellow citizens. One cannot over-emphasize the deleterious effect drug addiction and abuse are causing among this nation's population, both young and old alike. For too long, the problem of drug

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"A great crisis of our times is a loss of respect for the human being, both in the old system and the 'now' generation . . . The time for two-way communications is now!"

—See Story on Page 8

Recent Research On Abused Drugs

By Sidney Cohen, M.D.

(Dr. Sidney Cohen is director, division of narcotic addiction and drug abuse, of HEW's National Institute of Mental Health. Following are excerpts from his remarks on drug abuse research given at the Dec. 3 White House Governors' Conference)

* * *

INTRODUCTION

The spread of the abuse of drugs continues. It spreads from metropolitan areas into rural towns and small cities which never before had a problem. It spreads into younger age groups, in some places down into the grade school. It spreads into classes of chemicals which had never before been inhaled, ingested, or injected.

Why is this happening now? Will it go away? What kinds of effects and side effects do the various drugs have? How do they work? How can these drug dependent people be treated? What strategies will prevent this epidemic of drug taking? These and hundreds of other questions are being sought on the street, in the hospital, in the research laboratory.

Each drug presents its own specific problems. I shall spend a few minutes highlighting some of the scientific information about the drugs which are of greatest current concern.

MARIJUANA

Now that the active ingredient (THC) in marijuana has been synthesized, and methods to determine the THC content of marijuana have been found, we can finally do precise research with this drug. Some marijuana has little or no activity. THC, or strong marijuana, in large doses will produce marked changes in time and space perception. Judgment and reaction time are impaired. THC has been labelled with radioactive material to determine its distribution in the body. The chemical changes that occur in the smoking process are being studied. We know that smoking produces a greater effect than swallowing the same amount of material.

Many problems remain unresolved, especially the nature of the effects of long term use. Answers are needed and efforts to obtain them within a reasonable time are being made.

The extent of the problem is under continuing study. Over 10 million Americans would answer "Yes" to the question "Have you ever tried marijuana?" In our surveys most of them have tried it less than a dozen times. About 25 per cent are occasional users. The remaining 10 per cent are chronic, heavy users, the "potheads." The "pothead" and his behavior are under scrutiny by sociologists and psychologists. Each new survey indicates that the use of marijuana is increasing.

LSD AND OTHER HALLUCINOGENS

According to our statistics the use of LSD is leveling off or actually decreasing. This may be the result of an increased awareness of the complications that this drug can induce. However, at a time when a number of "acidheads" are turning away from LSD, some upper and middle class adolescents are beginning to indulge.

DON'T BLOW YOUR MIND

The hazards of the indiscriminate use of LSD and other hallucinogenic substances are now well known.

THE STIMULANTS

The stimulants, particularly the amphetamines, are increasingly being abused. As with other drugs, various levels of abuse can be identified: the infrequent user, the regular user of small amounts and the binge-type user of enormous quantities. The latter group has emerged during the past three years and represents a serious personal and public health problem.

The amphetamine which is most popular now is methamphetamine (speed). The heavy user is known as a "speed-freak."

THE SEDATIVES

The abuse of drugs that relieve anxiety and quiet emotional disturbances is not new. The barbituates which include most of the sleeping pills have been abused for half a century. Physical dependence upon them and allied drugs is possible.

Although at one time this group of "downers" was misused by adults, during the past year or two, adolescents have become increasingly involved.

Chronic intoxication with barbituates resembles the chronically intoxicated state evoked by alcohol. The dangers from accidental or suicidal overdosage are substantial.

THE NARCOTICS

The narcotics, drugs which relieve pain and induce sleep, are either related to opium (morphine, heroin) or are synthetic chemicals with a structure similar to the opiates. Heroin is the most popular item in this class.

Narcotic addiction has been increasing, not only in the inner city, but also among the drug using subcultures in the suburbs.

A number of promising treatment methods have been developed.

The Drug Problem:

New Efforts for Control, Enforcement of Laws

The government-wide effort to control the growing narcotics traffic in the United States has as its focal point the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in the U.S. Department of Justice. Director of the bureau is John Ingersoll, a professional law enforcement officer for 18 years.

Following are excerpts from an interview with Mr. Ingersoll dealing with the drug abuse problem:

Q.—What signs indicate the growth of the drug abuse problem?

A.—The drug abuse problem has grown phenomenally in the past decade. You may recall that as short a time as 12 or 15 years ago the drug problem was a relatively minor one as far as the over-all crime situation was concerned. But since 1960, and the mid-60s in particular, the problem has accelerated to the point where in some parts of the country it is one of almost epidemic proportions.

We know, for example, the number of known hard narcotic addicts has increased 40 per cent since 1960. The arrest activity of state and local police departments since 1960 has increased some 350 per cent as it pertains to arrests for drugs. Another indication is the number of injuries that occur from drug abuse. This has increased phenomenally, particularly around New York City where complete information is kept about deaths due to addiction. In one month alone last year, more than 100 people died from trauma associated with heroin. It is expected that probably in the neighborhood of 1,000 people will die in New York City, where just seven or eight years ago that figure was maybe about 150 or 200 per year. Another measure of the increase is the tremendous concern around the country over drug addiction and drug usage. In suburban communities, where the drug problem was never heard of as recently as five or six years ago, we now find increasing usage. So, I think over-all the drug-problem in this country is growing at a very rapid and alarming rate.

Q.—What about the increased use of marijuana?

A.—The growth of marijuana usage is probably unmeasurable at this time. Some people have estimated that between 8 and 12 million people in this country—mostly young people—have experimented with it between one and ten times. Of that number, some 20 to 30 per cent become what are called confirmed "pot heads." And somewhere in the neighborhood of 50,000 or 60,000 each year go into other drugs or experiment with other drugs, and become serious abusers of other drugs. Another problem here is the average age of drug abusers continues to drop each year, and this portends some very serious difficulties in the future unless it is reversed.

Q.—What indicators do you have that show the average age is dropping?

A.—In 1968, something like 20 per cent of the new addicts reported to our bureau were under the age of 21. Now a few years ago, the percentages of new addicts reported under the age of 21 would have been around 8 or 10 per cent. Also, 80 per cent of the addicts that we have on file are under 30. Another example, when LSD first became popular it was with graduate students. Over the years it moved down until now it is down to the junior high school level. So youngsters are being exposed to drugs at an earlier age and are starting to experiment with them at an earlier age.

John E. Ingersoll
Director, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs

Q.—What is your bureau doing to curtail drug abuse?

A.—The whole federal government, beginning with the President, has undertaken in the past several months a very dynamic effort to bring this problem under control. In our bureau, for example, we are changing our entire enforcement operation to drive at the sources of illegal drugs and the diversion of legally produced drugs. We are going through the process now of identifying the illicit traffic systems in the United States, and their international hookups.

On the international front, I have just returned from a trip to Europe and Turkey where we are attempting to develop increasing cooperative efforts from the countries which are not only caught up in the same kind of problem, but which represent sources of drugs to the U.S. We are working on a daily basis now with representatives from Mexico in an attempt to structure some long lasting program which will decrease, if not eliminate, the flow of drugs across the Mexican border. We have in Vietnam an operation in conjunction with the military to stem the use of the availability of marijuana, in particular, and other drugs to the troops in the field. In the preventative area, there is presently a White House coordinating committee which is endeavoring to coordinate all the drug abuse prevention programs that are operated throughout the federal government. Finally, we have recognized the need for new legislation, because some of our laws date back to as far as 1914. We presently have an administration sponsored bill before Congress which will update the tools we as an enforcement agency will have to work with.

All-out Effort Urged to Halt Flow of Illicit Drugs

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abuse has been treated like the common cold—give it a little time and medication and it will go away. But it has not gone away. Rather, it was unfortunately misdiagnosed and, as a result, the fever is increasing at a fantastic rate.

In 1968, some 162,000 persons were arrested for drug offenses. This represents a 322 per cent increase over the number arrested in 1960. Of these 162,000 arrested persons, 76 per cent of them were under twenty-five years of age. During this same period, there was a 21 per cent rise in the number of those arrested under the age of twenty-one. And, of all the new narcotic addicts reported in 1968, 80 per cent were under the age of thirty.

To elaborate further on these figures is unnecessary; they speak for themselves. Arrests represent only the tip of the iceberg. Drug abuse is increasing in epidemic proportions and has become a fact of life, if not a way of life, to a sizeable segment of our youth population, where we can least afford it to take root.

Time to Move Ahead

Once only a characteristic of the inner city, drug addiction has spread to suburbia where it is becoming firmly entrenched in middle and upper-middle class households, in many instances to the total ignorance of the adult members of those households. In addition, the variety of drug abuse has increased to include many types of stimulant and depressant drugs, and hallucinogens, as well as marijuana. Even heroin is making its insidious presence felt more and more in the colleges and suburbia. This drug abuse problem is one that does not distinguish by race, religion, or economic or social status. It affects all walks of life without discrimination. It is the 20th Century form of plague and we need effective treatment and quarantine procdures *now*.

In the past we have never really come to grips with the problems of drug addiction and abuse. Division and competition among the agencies charged with combating the problem have served only to undermine any concerted effort, with the end result being wasteful duplication of manpower and expense. Past failures to request adequate resources have also proved an impedient to a successful frontal attack.

Now, however, these problems are behind us and we can get down to basics by mounting an all-out effort, both nationally and internationally, to halt the flow of illicit drugs into this country and to diminish illicit home manufactured supplies.

Pursuant to President Nixon's July 14, 1969, message to the Congress, outlining his ten-point program to combat drug abuse, the Department of Justice prepared and sent to Congress a comprehensive revision of the Federal narcotic, marijuana, and dangerous drug laws entitled, The Controlled Dangerous Substances Act of 1969. On Oct. 23, 1969, this bill was the subject of a Bipartisan Leadership Conference called by the President at the White House where the leaders of both the House and the Senate voiced support for the bill and pledged swift passage through Congress.

In line with the President's message and due to the fact that the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs has limited manpower and resources, we have established enforcement and regulatory priorities which we feel will be most effective in halting the flow of illicit drugs to those using them. We are focusing our efforts at the top of the pyramid-shaped hierarchy involved in the distribution of narcotics and dangerous drugs. This involves interdicting the narcotic traffic overseas before it gets to this country, and concentrating on the major criminal conspiracies and individual traffickers involved in wholesale distribution within the United States.

With increases in manpower and appropriations, we have been able to establish within the Bureau a number of special strike forces with the capability of moving swiftly into an area where intelligence reports indicate large scale drug trafficking, in addition to the permanent staffs that provide continuing service. With the aid of eavesdropping and wiretapping equipment, these units have been and can be highly effective, especially at the middle and upper levels of illicit wholesale drug distribution.

In addition, our agents stationed overseas, working with foreign police authorities, have recently made a number of cases against major international traffickers resulting in numerous large scale seizures of narcotics destined for the United States. This is the most effective form of preventive law enforcement, since the illicit drugs are seized at their source, rather than after they have entered the United States for distribution.

Operation Cooperation

As part of the federal government's effort to suppress smuggling of illicit drugs into the United States, Operation Intercept was created and put into effect to halt the continuous flow of narcotics, marijuana, and dangerous drugs at the Mexican border. As a result of Operation Intercept, which has since been renamed Operation Cooperation, meetings were recently held between officials of the United States and Mexican Governments to see that mutually cooperative steps could be taken to halt the flow of illicit drugs between the two countries. Relations in this area between our country and Mexico have improved and are improving even more so, and we should soon be seeing significant decreases in illicit drug traffic at the border.

We are also conferring with other nations affected by drug problems to see how we can work more effectively together. In this regard, we are working closely with French and Turkish officials so that our joint efforts will be maximized especially as to the illicit narcotic traffic. France and Turkey have been and are continuing to be most helpful in cracking down on what is a common problem of concern to both countries as well as our own.

While these are just a few of the programs we have been active in over recent months, I feel they are indicative of the efforts being made by the federal government to implement innovative approaches to the problem rather than to engage in rhetoric or rely solely on the out-moded and relatively unsuccessful programs and legal tools utilized in the past.

The next major area that I would like to discuss with

you is one that is perhaps the single most important law enforcement measure that I know in halting and reversing the spread of drug abuse in these United States. I use the term "law enforcement" advisedly since I include within that phrase drug use prevention.

There is need for significant improvement in communications between federal and state authorities, state and local authorities, and parents and children in this somewhat amorphous area which we call drug abuse. For too long we have tried to pigeon-hole areas of responsibility, define problem areas in terms of out-moded criteria, and explain this problem without adequate factual informational reserves.

A few months ago, I heard that a nationally known state law enforcement official recommended that the federal government assume total responsibility for the drug control problem. I cannot accept that as a feasible solution nor one that is in keeping with our federal system of government. What we need is a unified federal-state attack, each level concentrating at the level where it will have the greatest impact.

Federal aims and objectives are *not* necessarily the same as state and local aims and objectives. The federal government in general, and the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in particular, have the function of plugging the faucet of supply rather than catching the seepage, of sharing our special expertise with state and local agencies, and of setting in motion nation-wide prevention programs. We can generate ideas and suggestions, we can train state and local police, college deans, and others, but if the burden is to rest completely on our shoulders, it is too large a task for us to bear. Our suggestions, our training programs, our educational efforts, must be general. The states must flesh out and embellish these programs, filling in the specifics, rounding them out and adapting them to unique local situations. The heroin problem of New York requires a far different response than the marijuana problem of Montana.

Need Better Understanding

There must be a better understanding between law enforcement officers as to the respective roles of federal and state officers engaged in narcotics and dangerous drug work. The sight of unabated street drug trafficking has as much a demoralizing effect on citizens who want strong law enforcement as anything I can think of. A recognition of their different roles can contribute towards a more efficient federal-state partnership in combatting *all* levels of narcotic and dangerous drug traffic and abuse.

That is one side of the coin of communication. The other side is what we can do at the federal level to assist you, not only as public officials, but as concerned parents and young people.

Once again, our role must be general and national in scope. This afternoon you will be shown some of the materials that we have prepared for dissemination to the public. We have tried as much as is humanly possible to give the *facts of drug abuse;* not only the conclusions of law enforcement officers. We have tried to present the *facts regarding the individual drugs,* not generate scare tactics. All this information is designed to give you the necessary informational tools to make contact with the young people.

In addition to this kind of informational approach, which we feel is sorely needed because of the tremendous volume of misinformation on these various drugs, we have also decided to take a page from Marshal MacLuhan and utilize the mass media to get the message across to the young people.

The Bureau, the National Institute of Mental Health, and other federal agencies, are presently working with the Advertising Council to obtain prime time on television, radio, and, space in the printed media to take the message to the public and start to counteract the idea that drug taking is smart and hip. We don't intend to pontificate. I guess the best way to state it is that we intend to disseminate the facts in the language of today. . . . This type of educational program lends itself to a federal agency, but the communication effort should not stop here. There is much that the States can do in a similar vein to buttress the federal effort with more specialized mass media messages carried to their own locales and suited to their own particular problems.

Intra-Family Communications

When we talk about drug abuse and educating the young person in this country, we should look to ways that will assist the parents in getting the message across. For only if we reach young people, at their own level, with a message that makes sense *to them,* will we stand a real chance of stopping drug abuse in this country. If we are going to eradicate drug abuse thoroughly and permanently, the beginning will be within the family. To talk only in terms of eliminating the illicit drug supply is, in my judgment, a shortsighted approach. What we need is a concommitant long-range program that will eliminate the *demand.* Obviously, to date we have not succeeded in that effort. To do so we must restore and emphasize some established and tested values—family cohesiveness and intra-family communication, I think, present the best possibility for getting the message to our youth, as well as horizontal communication through the mass media on a youth to youth basis. If the family re-establishes its teaching prerogatives and if the mass media demonstrates the squareness of hippiness, I feel we will have a real chance of success.

What I have tried to do this morning is briefly give you a picture of the problems that beset us in this area we call drug abuse. They are twofold—a need for better, more focused law enforcement objectives to turn off the spigot of supply, and the need for better communication between the agencies, state and federal, involved with the problem, as well as between generations. Unless we can form an aggressive state-federal partnership, and parent-mass media partnership for attacking this problem together, nothing that is done separately will have the type of impact we need and the type of success we seek.

I feel that a meeting such as this is important in that it renews, invigorates, and highlights our common concern and our common dedication to meet this problem, and resolve it. This problem in 1969 and 1970 demands a re-evaluation of our efforts. It demands new approaches as well as refurbished and renewed efforts. We can't rely on the notion that old techniques are good enough. They are not. We must strike out in new directions. We must work together.

Bud Wilkinson

Youth Affairs Advisor Contends Marijuana Is 'Escape From Reality'

At the Pentagon meeting, Bud Wilkinson remarked that the drug abuse problem is particularly complicated by marijuana. Young people do not accept the claims that marijuana has damaging effects, he said, and they argue that it should be legalized because it is not any different than alcohol. They even question if it is as damaging as alcohol, he said.

But now, the President's special consultant said, with the hallucinogenic substance of marijuana isolated and available for testing, some "pretty good information" will be available within nine months to a year.

Marijuana has become, in a sense, the evidence of rebellion against elders, according to Mr. Wilkinson. He said, "marijuana is an escape from reality."

To attack the drug abuse problem, an across the board education program is needed, he said. A key element of the education program will be communicating with young people, he said, and that means adults must be willing to listen to youth.

He noted there is a government committee coordinating the work of the various departments of government related to the drug abuse problem. The committee is in the process of evaluating the current education process on drug abuse.

Hopefully, Mr. Wilkinson said, the committee will be able to agree on the type of instruction needed, who should instruct, at what age the instruction should be given, and in what manner.

Charles "Bud" Wilkinson
Special Consultant to President
On Youth Affairs

DoD Drug Abuse Information Program Planned

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as it is envisioned for the next six months, said, "Our problem is to find new ways to tune in."

He noted that presently about 65 per cent of the military force is under the age of 25, the median age is 22 and the age trend is downward.

Aims of Program

Through the program it is hoped to:

—Assist in the development of an increasing understanding of the true physical and psychological effects of drugs when misused.

—Encourage the consideration of all aspects of the action and alternatives to that action before the decision to misuse drugs.

—Develop an understanding of the current philosophies which lead people to misuse drugs and to encourage others to misuse them.

—Make clear the penalties that will be imposed if they are caught.

DoD Will Provide Guidance

The Office of Information for the Armed Forces will provide DoD guidance and coordination for the dissemination of information on drug abuse and will furnish materials and services.

Three basic approaches will be used:

—Challenge the individual to make comparisons and then make his own decision.

—Demonstrate to the individual that the misuse of drugs does incalculably more harm than good.

—Test the individual as to his actual knowledge of the facts on drugs and their misuse.

The DoD information program in support of the Defense-wide effort to counter the drug abuse problem was initiated in late 1967. Initial products developed and produced by IAF since that time include a major pamphlet, a fold-over type brochure, a poster, five motion pictures, three special television productions and numerous press articles, and radio and television spots and programs.

Current studies and analysis indicate additional informational products are needed to round out this initial program. A prototype drug information kit listing will be included in a forthcoming issue of Commanders Digest.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Cooperation of States Needed in War on Dangerous Drug Traffickers

Attorney General John N. Mitchell told a gathering of the nation's governors that the drug abuse problem "is common to the entire nation and one that requires a united front at all levels of government."

At the White House Governors' Conference Dec. 3, Mr. Mitchell said the problem is "too much of a national tragedy to allow it to be placed on the plane of political polemics."

Following are excerpts from Mr. Mitchell's remarks:

It is a pleasure to appear here before you to talk about something which I believe can be of benefit not only for your own individual states, but will also be of distinct benefit to the federal government in our joint efforts to control, halt, and hopefully reverse the trend of narcotic and dangerous drug abuse in these United States.

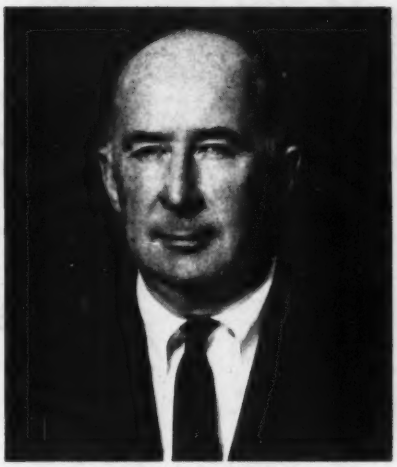
At the direction of the President, the Department of Justice has prepared a Uniform State Controlled Dangerous Substances Act.

This is not to be considered in the same vein as most uniform acts which are presented to the states for their consideration. This is a model that will require immediate, positive action by the states if we are to successfully mold a coordinated, effective war on narcotic and dangerous drug traffickers and if we are to successfully control the flow of legitimate drugs and prevent their diversion into the illicit drug market.

In this specialized area of law enforcement, we need a true and equal federal-state law enforcement partnership, and the first meaningful step for such a partnership is compatible laws, which will lead to coordinated and better directed law enforcement.

We presently have before the Congress our proposed Federal Controlled Dangerous Substances Act which is pending in the Senate Judiciary Committee. We are optimistic that the federal proposal will be acted upon quickly and favorably.

Both this Act and the model presented to you today bring together narcotics, marijuana, and other dangerous drugs such as LSD, the amphetamines, and the barbituates, under one legislative control procedure and under one



Attorney General John Mitchell

penalty scheme. This is in keeping with the federal reorganization which took narcotics and dangerous drug jurisdiction from the Departments of Health, Education and Welfare, and Treasury, and placed it within the Department of Justice. I know that there have been similar consolidations within your various state agencies. This reorganization creates a more efficient means of achieving law enforcement objectives. By consolidating and revamping the legal structure, we can give the new organizational effort better tools with which to work.

My purpose here is not to go into elaborate detail as to the provisions of the Act itself. Time simply does not permit this. Instead, we have included a summary of the Act along with our preliminary draft for you to take back to your individual states and consider it carefully and fully.

I only want to point out that it contains control and regulatory provisions over legitimate distribution, enforcement tools to improve investigative efforts, and provisions for education and training approaches to the drug abuse problem. The prohibited activities are set out in detail, but not the penalties in terms of years. This is left to the discretion of the states. However, we do earnestly suggest you consider the penalty alternatives suggested for the Federal Act. Lastly, provisions for rehabilitation are not included in the proposed model at this time. We are preparing a draft of such provisions and will attach it to the model later as an option for consideration.

In conjunction with the Department's efforts, we are working with the Special Committee on Narcotic and Hallucinogenic Drugs Act, of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. This committee, which is not affiliated with the department, also has a responsibility to produce a uniform state act for the national conference. We feel it is especially worthwhile to work with them so that we can draw upon, not just our own expertise, but the expertise of that committee's membership and others in the academic community who are intensely involved in reshaping narcotic and dangerous drug laws.

It is my intention, as soon as we have refined the Act, to have my representatives meet with you and your staffs at your request to discuss in detail this legislation and the federal legislation as well so that you will have a better understanding of the total picture of what this Administration is attempting to do in this area and the interrelationship of the federal and state proposals.

I feel that this is one area that should not be considered political; it is too much of a national tragedy to allow it to be placed on the plane of political polemics. It is a problem that is common to the entire nation and one that requires a united front at all levels of government. I might add, that on Oct. 23, 1969, the White House held a bipartisan meeting on narcotics and dangerous drugs, and the leadership from both Houses and both Parties agreed that this was of a non-political nature and endorsed the need for the federal legislation. I trust you will feel similarly inclined when you consider this model Act.

The department stands ready to give assistance when requested on this matter. Better law enforcement must start with modern, effective laws. We must discard horse and buggy notions of law enforcement in this area and meet this problem, in partnership, with all available resources in an up-to-date, efficient manner.

Communications Is Key To Understanding Youth

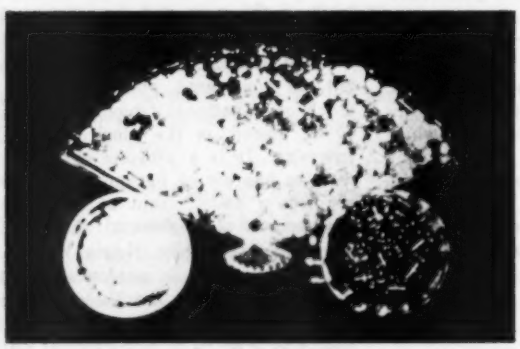
The need to better understand how today's youth think and communicate as a basis for "bridging the two-way communications gap" was stressed recently at a special Presidential Conference on Narcotics and Drug Abuse for the nation's governors.

This was one theme relayed to the distinguished audience, which included President Richard Nixon and Vice President Spiro Agnew, in a special Department of Defense presentation by John C. Broger, director, Office of Information for the Armed Forces.

He stressed, "We are all involved in this monumental task of communicating—whatever wisdom or experience we have —without some change or distortion in the transition and communications *is* still the key. Communications between family and youth, between authority and youth, between the 'establishment' and youth . . . and anyone over 25 is part of the establishment."

To emphasize his main points, Mr. Broger interspersed his talk with visual and audio messages. Youth communicators like Bobby Darin, the Steppenwolf, the Mothers of Invention, Charles Wright and Janis Ian were presented in a musical collage of their attitudes toward the nation, life today, and religion.

Conferees were told that the average high school graduate has watched 15,000 hours of television and 500 feature films



"Soft narcotics" include LSD, amphetamines and barbiturates.

prior to graduation while spending only 11,000 hours in the classroom.

It was noted that for each book the average college student reads he sees 20 movies.

Another medium of communications among youth is the art poster. The director displayed a series of posters sold in the youth market and pointed out the symbolism of each. He noted that the symbols, letters and signs on these posters represented modern "thought" communications among youth.

There are approximately 630 underground newspapers in this country with a circulation in excess of three million. The underground press has reached the point where an advertising representative is now offering space in 35 newspapers, with combined circulation above 600.000.

The underground newspapers are symbolic of the "happening" at Woodstock, N.Y., where 90 per cent of the 400,000 youths attending openly smoked pot . . . and the drug scene was carried to a new high.

Marijuana is a product of the plant "cannabis sativa."

No one really knows the scope of the drug problem or how far it extends into our society. Estimates show that nearly 100 million people in the United States use some form of mind-altering drug.

The figure includes severe alcoholism as well as the barbiturates, amphetamines, and hallucinogens.

It was pointed out that 30 to 50 per cent of college students have tried pot at least once. Over half repeat and anywhere from five to 20-million are trying pot today in the U.S.

Last year 35 tons of heroin were confiscated worldwide. In the United States, nearly 900 pounds were seized by narcotics agents last year. This was three times more than the year before, and four times more than the previous year.

The country's leaders were told that property stolen by drug addicts to support their habit is conservatively $800 million a year. This estimate does not include users of the so-called soft narcotics, marijuana, LSD, barbiturates and amphetamines. Cost to the nation's business community is estimated at another $400,000 a day, while on-the-job alcoholism soared to a $4 billion hang-over, double the $2 billion estimated five years ago and equal to the loss of $16 million to business and industry each working day.

A great crisis of our times is a loss of respect for the *human being*, both in the old system and the "now" generation. Behind all the confusion, the pills, pot, the draft-card burning, the campus riots, the street fights, many who are confused by the pressures of today's society, are desperately crying for help—we must understand. The time for two-way communications is now!

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